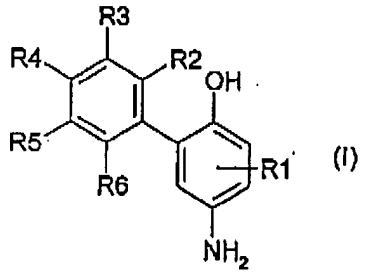
In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 10 to 18 without prejudice and add the following claims 19 to 27:

Claims 1 to 9 (previously canceled).

Claims 10 to 18 (canceled).

19(new). A colorant for oxidative dyeing of keratin fibers, particularly human hair, based on a developer-coupler combination, said colorant containing, as developer, at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of formula (I), or a physiologically tolerated, water-soluble salt thereof:



(I)

wherein **R1** denotes hydrogen, a halogen atom, a C_1-C_4-alkyl group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkyl group, a C_1-C_4-alkoxy group or a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkoxy group;

wherein **R2, R3, R4, R5, R6** can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C_1-C_4-alkoxy group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkoxy group, a C_1-C_6-alkyl group,

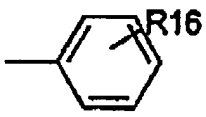
a C_1-C_4-alkyl thioether group, a mercapto group, a nitro group, an amino group, an alkylamino group, a dialkylamino group, a trifluoromethyl group, a -C(O)H group, a $-C(O)CH_3$ group, a $-C(O)CF_3$ group, an $-Si(CH_3)_3$ group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkyl group, a C_3-C_4-dihydroxyalkyl group, a -CH=CH**R7** group, a $-(CH_2)_p$-CO_2**R8** group or a $-(CH_2)_p$-**R9** with p = 1,2,3 or 4, a -C(**R10**)=N**R11** or C(**R12**)H-N**R13R14** group, or two adjacent **R2** to **R6** groups form an -O-CH_2-O- bridge;

R7 denotes hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a nitro group, an amino group, a $-CO_2$**R12** group or a $-C(O)CH_3$ group;

R8, **R10** and **R13** can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen or a C_1-C_4-alkyl group;

R9 denotes an amino group or a nitrile group;

R11, **R14** and **R15** can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a C_1-C_4- alkyl group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkyl group, a C_3-C_4-dihydroxyalkyl group or a radical of formula



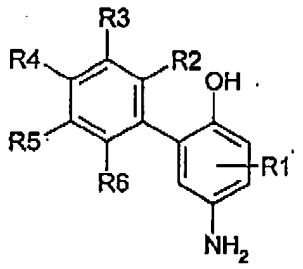
R12 denotes hydrogen, an amino group or a hydroxy group, and

provided that the at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of the formula (I) does not have a center of symmetry and that, if one of **R3** and **R6** denotes an amino group, an alkylamino group or a dialkylamino group, another of

R3 and **R6** different from said one of **R3** and **R6** does not denote an amino group, an alkylamino group or a dialkylamino group.

20(new). The colorant according to claim 19, wherein **R1** denotes hydrogen.

21(new). A colorant for oxidative dyeing of keratin fibers, particularly human hair, based on a developer-coupler combination, said colorant containing, as developer, at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of formula (I), or a physiologically tolerated, water-soluble salt thereof:



(I)

wherein **R1** denotes hydrogen;

wherein **R2, R3, R4, R5, R6** can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C_1-C_4-alkoxy group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkoxy group, a C_1-C_6-alkyl group, a C_1-C_4-alkyl thioether group, a mercapto group, a nitro group, an amino group, an alkylamino group, a dialkylamino group, a trifluoromethyl group, a -C(O)H group, a $-C(O)CH_3$ group, a $-C(O)CF_3$ group, an $-Si(CH_3)_3$ group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkyl group, a C_3-C_4-dihydroxyalkyl group, a -CH=CHR7 group,

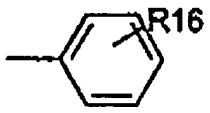
a -$(CH_2)_p$-CO_2**R8** group or a -$(CH_2)_p$-**R9** with p = 1,2,3 or 4, a -C(**R10**)=N**R11** or C(**R12**)H-N**R13R14** group, or two adjacent **R2** to **R6** groups form an -O-CH_2-O- bridge;

R7 denotes hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a nitro group, an amino group, a -CO_2**R12** group or a -C(O)CH_3 group;

R8, R10 and **R13** can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen or a C_1-C_4-alkyl group;

R9 denotes an amino group or a nitrile group;

R11, R14 and **R15** can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a C_1-C_4- alkyl group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkyl group, a C_3-C_4-dihydroxyalkyl group or a radical of formula

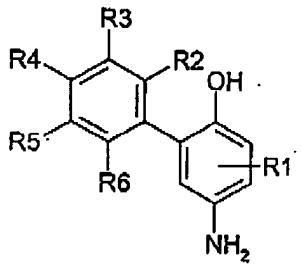


R12 denotes hydrogen, an amino group or a hydroxy group; and

wherein four of **R2, R3, R4, R5 and R6** each denote hydrogen while a remaining fifth of **R2, R3, R4, R5 and R6** is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a methyl group, an amino group, a hydroxy group, a methoxy group, C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkyl groups and C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkoxy groups; and

provided that the at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of the formula (I) does not have a center of symmetry.

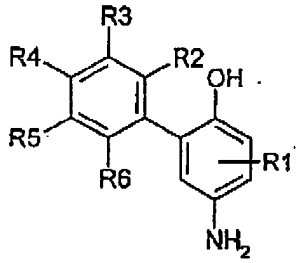
22(new). A colorant for oxidative dyeing of keratin fibers, particularly human hair, based on a developer-coupler combination, said colorant containing, as developer, at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of formula (I), or a physiologically tolerated, water-soluble salt thereof:



(I)

wherein **R1, R2, R3, R4, R5 and R6** each denote hydrogen.

23(new). A colorant for oxidative dyeing of keratin fibers, particularly human hair, based on a developer-coupler combination, said colorant containing, as developer, at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of formula (I), or a physiologically tolerated, water-soluble salt thereof:



(I)

wherein **R1** denotes hydrogen, a halogen atom, a C_1-C_4-alkyl group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkyl group, a C_1-C_4-alkoxy group or a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkoxy group;

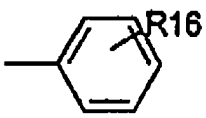
wherein **R2, R3, R4, R5, R6** can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C_1-C_4-alkoxy group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkoxy group, a C_1-C_6-alkyl group, a C_1-C_4-alkyl thioether group, a mercapto group, a nitro group, an amino group, an alkylamino group, a dialkylamino group, a trifluoromethyl group, a -C(O)H group, a $-C(O)CH_3$ group, a $-C(O)CF_3$ group, an $-Si(CH_3)_3$ group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkyl group, a C_3-C_4-dihydroxyalkyl group, a -CH=CH**R7** group, a $-(CH_2)_p$-CO_2**R8** group or a $-(CH_2)_p$-**R9** with p = 1,2,3 or 4, a -C(**R10**)=N**R11** or C(**R12**)H-N**R13R14** group, or two adjacent **R2** to **R6** groups form an -O-CH_2-O-bridge;

R7 denotes hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a nitro group, an amino group, a $-CO_2$**R12** group or a $-C(O)CH_3$ group;

R8, **R10** and **R13** can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen or a C_1-C_4-alkyl group;

R9 denotes an amino group or a nitrile group;

R11, **R14** and **R15** can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a C_1-C_4- alkyl group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkyl group, a C_3-C_4-dihydroxyalkyl group or a radical of formula



R12 denotes hydrogen, an amino group or a hydroxy group; and

wherein four of **R2, R3, R4, R5 and R6** each denote hydrogen while a remaining fifth is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a methyl group, an amino group, a hydroxy group, a methoxy group, C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkyl groups and C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkoxy groups; and

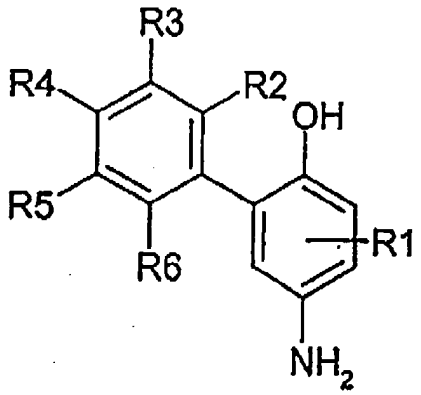
provided that the at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of the formula (I) does not have a center of symmetry.

24(new). A colorant for oxidative dyeing of keratin fibers, particularly human hair, based on a developer-coupler combination, said colorant containing, as developer, at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl, 2,4'-dihydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl, 2-hydroxy-5-amino-4'-(2"-hydroxyethoxy)-biphenyl, 2,4'-dihydroxy-5-amino-2'-methylbiphenyl, 2-hydroxy-5-amino-4'-(2"-hydroxyethyl)biphenyl and 2-hydroxy-5,4'-diaminobiphenyl;
or a physiologically tolerated, water-soluble salt thereof.

25(new). The colorant according to claim 19, containing from about 0.005 to 20.0 wt. % of said at least one 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of the formula (I).

26(new). The colorant according to claim 19, having a pH of 6.5 to 11.5.

27(new). A 2-hydroxy-5-aminobiphenyl derivative compound of formula (Ia), or a physiologically tolerated, water-soluble salt thereof:



(Ia)

wherein **R1** denotes hydrogen, a halogen atom, a C_1-C_4-alkyl group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxy-alkyl group, a C_1-C_4-alkoxy group or a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkoxy group;

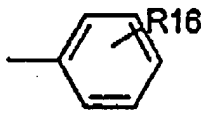
R2, R3, R4, R5, R6 can be equal or different and independently of each other denote hydrogen, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C_1-C_4-alkoxy group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkoxy group, a C_1-C_6-alkyl group, a C_1-C_4-alkyl thioether group, a mercapto group, a nitro group, an amino group, an alkylamino group, a dialkylamino group, a trifluoromethyl group, a -C(O)H group, a $-C(O)CH_3$ group, a $-C(O)CF_3$ group, an $-Si(CH_3)_3$ group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkyl group, a C_3-C_4-dihydroxyalkyl group, a -CH=CH**R7** group, a $-(CH_2)_p$-CO_2**R8** group or a $-(CH_2)_p$-**R9** with p = 1,2,3 or 4, a -C(R10)= N**R11** or C(**R12**)H-**NR13R14** group, or two adjacent **R2** to **R6** groups form an $-O-CH_2-O-$ bridge;

R7 denotes hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a nitro group, an amino group, a -CO_2**R12** group or a $-C(O)CH_3$ group;

R8, R10 and **R13** can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen or a C_1-C_4-alkyl group;

R9 denotes an amino group or a nitrile group;

R11, R14 and **R15** can be equal or different and, independently of each other, denote hydrogen, a hydroxy group, a C_1-C_4- alkyl group, a C_1-C_4-hydroxyalkyl group, a C_3-C_4-dihydroxyalkyl group or a radical of formula



R12 denotes hydrogen, an amino group or a hydroxy group; and

with the proviso that (*i*) the compound of formula (Ia) does not have a center of symmetry; that (*ii*) **R2** does not denote hydrogen or a hydroxy group; that (*iii*) if one of **R3** and **R6** denotes an amino group, an alkylamino group or a dialkylamino group, another of **R3** and **R6** different from said one of **R3** and **R6** does not denote an amino group, an alkylamino group or a dialkylamino group; and that (*iv*) if **R1** and three of the **R2, R3, R4, R5 and R6** each denote hydrogen, and one of the remaining **R2, R3, R4, R5 and R6** denotes hydrogen, a halogen atom or a C_1- to C_6-alkyl group, another of the remaining **R2, R3, R4, R5 and R6** does not denote a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C_1-C_4- alkoxy group, a C_1-C_4-alkylthioether group, a nitro group, an amino group, an alkyl amino group, a dialkylamino group or a trifluoromethyl group.